

IN TOUCH

The Nurses' Memorial Chapel Newsletter
November 2018 www.cnmc.org.nz

Friends of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel Newsletter

Hello to all our Supporters,

Well what a year it has been and here we are November, Christmas a month away and everyone is starting to shop, bake, decorate, attend a multitude of Christmas functions and prepare for summer and hopefully a restful and peaceful holiday season. Let's hope the weather improves!

Reopening of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel



Well finally it has happened and on a sunny mild October day we were treated to a wonderful event in the presence of Her Excellency, the Rt. Hon Dame Patsy Reddy, GNZM, QSO Governor-General of New Zealand. The Chapel, restricted to 50 guests looked

magnificent. With provision for further guests in the Manawa building invitations were extended to all members and those associated with the Chapel. A short service admirably conducted by Canon David Morrell was a moving affair for all those in attendance.



Addresses by Her Excellency, followed by the Hon. Lianne Dalziel, Dr Richard Acland and re-dedication of

the Chapel by The Right Reverend David Coles gave us time to reflect on the significance of the

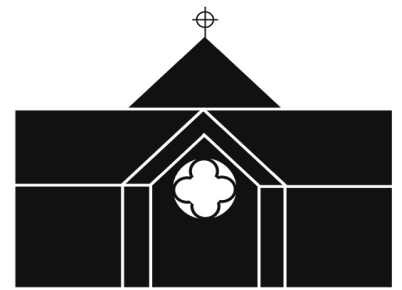
Memorial Chapel and all it stood for. The plaque, unveiled by Her Excellency signaled the conclusion of the formalities and quests were invited to spend some time taking in the beauty of the building and the memorial garden.

Acknowledgement

Special thanks go to the Christchurch City Council (CCC) not only for their significant financial support, but also to the team from the Council who worked alongside us. Tania Rohleder Senior Project Coordinator Heritage was tireless in ensuring every detail was addressed for the reopening and kept us all energized and on track. Richie Moyle, Programme Manager Heritage for dealing with what we thought at times was the impossible but who managed to leap the hurdles, keep smiling and maintain his wonderful sense of humour. It was a privilege to meet Richie's family on the day of the reopening which made us realise what a special project this had been for him.

Richard Bullett Senior Project Manager Insight Unlimited, Michael Pepper Project Manager Max Projects and their teams for their superb workmanship, commitment to detail and hard work to ensure the Chapel was restored to its original glory in time for the reopening.

Thank you also to Louise Young CCC Chapel gardener who once again had the memorial garden looking stunning ably assisted by Jude Turner. Their time and effort right up to the day to ensure visitors could enjoy the beauty of this garden was very much appreciated.



The Chapel Trust and Friends of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel are very grateful to all those wonderful people who have been involved in this very special project.



Rt. Hon Dame Patsy Reddy, GNZM, QSO Governor-General of New Zealand

Book Launch

Dame Ann Hercus launched the book, "Stand for All Time" written by Anna Rogers on Sunday 28th October at the Chapel. This compelling book told by Anna is the story of the Marquette sinking, and the scandal surrounding it, and the creation of the Chapel and the challenges it faced.

At the celebration Quentin Wilson, sang acapella "Rose from No Man's Land" and was joined for the chorus by those who attended the book launch. This was another very moving event for the members of the Chapel Trust and Friends and their partners.

Anna spent some time in the Chapel following the launch to sign books and speak with visitors who arrived for the open day.

If you wish to purchase a copy of this superb book please email us at chapelfoc@gmail.com. Cost \$45 plus \$10 postage and packaging.

Mount Felix Tapestry

Recently we were very fortunate to welcome The Mount Felix Tapestry to the Canterbury Museum from 6 October to 3 November. The Tapestry tells the story of the First World War connection between Walton-on-Thames and New Zealand.

The exhibition stems from a community stitch project commemorating the role of the Mount Felix Hospital and the centenary of the Gallipoli campaign in WWI. The hospital (New Zealand Hospital No. 2) was established for New Zealand soldiers wounded at Gallipoli and later battles.



Cheryl Jenkins, Rosemary Burnby, NZ Co-ordinator of the Tapestry Tour and Designer Andrew Crummy in front the Edith Popplewell panel at the opening on 1st August 2018

Designed by Andrew Crummy, the panels on display stitched by a range of community groups, from primary schools to experienced embroiderers.

The 44 panel tapestry began its journey in New Zealand in Papakura on 1st August 2018. The tapestry was warmly welcomed to Christchurch with a special viewing and welcome event.



The McKenzie Family start the 45th panel at Papakura Museum on 1st August 2018

Anne Candler from Walton-on-Thames was involved in the stitching of one of the panels. Kate Paterson from Christchurch also stitched a panel. We were privileged to have both Anne and Kate speak of their experience with stitching the panels at the special viewing. The Canterbury Museum, Friends Nurses' Memorial Chapel and the Nurses' Memorial Chapel Trust hosted the event.



Kate Paterson with the 45th panel

As the Tapestry tours New Zealand, a 45th. panel is being stitched about Clutha McKenzie's involvement in WW1 and his stay at The Mount Felix Hospital. Clutha's daughter in law and granddaughter placed a stitch in the panel while it was at the museum. Many others got an opportunity to be a part of stitching the panel. The exhibition will be at Dunedin Museum early next Year.

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers who would be prepared to do an afternoon at the Memorial Chapel approximately once every 6 weeks during open hours. At this stage until we have sufficient volunteers the Chapel will be open on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday 1.00pm-4.30pm from early next year.

If you would like to become a volunteer please contact Stephanie Cook at; stephanie.cook@cdhb.health.nz or 0272509264 or Andrea Grieve andregrieve@xtra.co.nz or 0276944705

Museum Update

Museum items and the contents of the chapel were transported from the hangar at the Air Force Museum in Wigram under the watchful eye of Jude Turner, her team, John Woods the movers and Moya Montgomery from the Air Force Museum. Richard Bullett was at the Chapel to welcome the trucks and Jennie Hamilton provided lunch for everyone.

Now the focus is on selecting and displaying key objects and treasures to optimize visitor experiences. The museum group is working hard to reopen the museum. We would like to thank Jude, Nanette and their team for all the time and energy

they have put into ensuring the museum again becomes a place of significance interest to our visitors.

Beca Heritage Week 12th-22nd October 2018

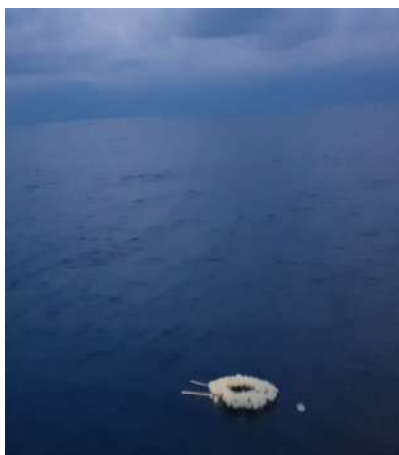
With the reopening of the Chapel on the 27th October we were not actively involved in this year's Heritage week, however the Chapel and the open day for the public were promoted widely through the Council, and Beverly Rayna gave a short presentation on Hester Maclean at the Wigram Airforce Museum on Saturday 22nd October.

The Armistice on WW1's Eastern Fronts



Tour organizer Clare Ashton provides the tribute as the group stops over the Marquette wreck, which rests at 90 meters 14 miles offshore in the Thermaikos Gulf

During October Friends committee members Cheryl Jenkins and Andrea Grieve visited the British Mikra Military Cemetery in Thessaloniki, Greece. In a tribute to her great-great aunt, Cheryl and her uncle Nigel Harrison laid a wreath on staff nurse Margaret Rogers grave, and the group remembered the only Australian nurse buried in this cemetery, Gertrude Munro who died 10 October 1918. Representing military nursing Dr Wendy Maddocks and Nurse Rose Fraser, the great-great niece of *Marquette* survivor Sir Hugh Acland, laid a wreath on the *Marquette* memorial to remember all those whose grave is the Aegean Sea. The following morning during a dawn service Cheryl and Rose laid a wreath



over the wreck of the *Marquette* as the group sailed for Mudros Harbour and Lenmos Island where a number of the field hospital sites for the Gallipoli campaign were visited.

Christchurch Nurses Memorial Chapel Website

www.cnmc.org.nz

Although the website had been redeveloped just prior to the beginning of the restoration, there is a realization that we have so much information that we would like to share and make available, it was time to start over with a completely new site.

The Chapel website is being redeveloped to add a range of functionality, and to improve its look and feel. In particular there will be

- An online booking form for the Chapel, showing availability and when the Chapel is in use
- An online donations form
- A database where photos and documents can be stored and accessed – with an easy to use search and filing system
- A way to highlight many of the photos in our archives

This is an exciting opportunity to highlight a wonderful facility in a new way, and also assist those on the trust to run and administer our Chapel premises.

In the future we hope to add an online shop – however we are focusing on the key essentials before we look at expanding further.

AGM 2019

The AGM will be held on the 11th May 2019 in the Poppy Room RSA Armagh Street at 10am,

Please put this in your diary now.

Tea and coffee will be served following the AGM. Cards and books will be on sale.

Remember to Renew Your Membership

The Friends subscription year is now a calendar year therefore subscriptions for 2018 are due by 31 December 2018.

Your support of the chapel is much appreciated by the Nurses' Memorial Chapel Committee. Members receive a bi-annual newsletter to keep them informed of chapel activities. When you are renewing your subscription please complete all details so our membership database remains up-to-date.

Miss/Ms/Mrs/Mr/Dr _____

First Name(s) _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Single: \$10

Double/Family: \$15

\$100 Life member

Donation _____

Tick if you require a receipt

Total _____

Please make cheques out to Friends of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel. Do not mail cash

Internet banking:

Please include your name and type of sub payment.

Bank Deposit: **03 1707 0017417 000**



This is the final newsletter for 2018. It has been an extremely busy year culminating in a wonderful reopening event. I would like to thank everyone involved for their hard work and support before and on the day of the reopening. Merry Xmas to you all and have a very happy, safe and restful festive season with your family and friends. See you in 2019.

Pip Mason, President